



FHS English - Key Stage 3 Overview

DIVERSITY
INDIVIDUAL VOICE
RIGOUR

EMPATHY
CREATIVITY
TEAMWORK

Year 7



Identity and Transformation

Who am I? How am I changing? Why?
Who are the people in this story? How are they changing? Why?
Who is the writer?
What do I think of the story and characters? How does this change as we read?
How does this story shape my identity?

Year 8



Different Perspectives

How do characters' perspectives differ from each other? Why?
What is the writer's perspective on the topic? Why?
How do different writers express different perspectives about the same topic?
How does my perspective differ from others? Why?

Year 9



The Writer in Society

What is the context of the text? How has it shaped the plot, form and language?
What literary conventions/movements have informed the text's form and structure?
How is the writer conforming to or subverting societal expectations of the time?
What did the writer intend this text to do? Is it successful? Do I like it?

Every year: Consistent and exploratory discussion of the way author's methods create meaning, with regular review and explicit teaching of key thematic and literary terminology.

Life is a Journey: *Bone Talk* and Introduction to Poetry

Autumn

How do the main characters grow? How has the setting shaped the characters? Which events shape the characters?
What choices do they make? Are they wise decisions or mistakes?
What does each poem show about identity?
Skill focus: evidence selection and inference



Representing Reality: *Autobiography and Blood Brothers*

Spring

How do the main characters grow? How has the setting shaped the characters? Which events shape the characters?
How does Russell use the form of a play to depict different identities?
How do authors explore important events in their lives through autobiography?
How can I use my writing to describe important events from my life?
Skill focus: creative writing – vocabulary, details, figurative language, basic structure



Origins and Lessons: *Epic Myths and Fairy Tales*

Summer

How do different communities present origins and lessons through epic myth and fairy tale?
How does the writer use narrative verse form to create dramatic episodes and memorable characters?
What is the significance of the epic hero?
How does life in ancient society differ from my own? How might that have shaped us as individuals?
How can I create my own folk tale?
Skill focus: opinion writing, thesis-driven, detailed,



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Experiences of War: *Journey's End* and Poetry

How have different people experienced war?
How does Sherrif use the form of a play to depict different identities' experience of war?
What is each poet's perspective on war? How do they differ?
Skill focus: identify author's methods and evaluation of interpretations



Designing Society: *Speeches and Animal Farm*

How do different people across time think society should be? How do I think society should be?
What perspectives on society does Orwell present? How does he use the novel form to do so?
How do writers use the form of a speech to persuasively express their perspective?
How can I use the form of a speech to persuasively express my perspective?
Skill focus: persuasive writing – rhetorical devices, clear structure, punctuation, sentence forms



Love and Relationships: *Romeo and Juliet* and Love Poetry

What do different people across time think about love and relationships? What do I think about love and relationships?
What different perspectives on love and relationships does Shakespeare present in his characters/themes? How does he use the form of a play to do so?
What perspectives do other writers show? How do they compare to Shakespeare?
Skill focus: evaluative opinion essay, giving multiple interpretations, commenting on author's methods



Gothic Terror and Romantic Rebels: *Jekyll and Hyde* and Poetry

What historical events influenced writers of the Gothic and Romantic movements (1750s – 1900)? Why and how?
How and why does Stevenson use the Gothic genre?
How can I use Gothic conventions and story structures in my own story?
How does each poet use poetic form to express Romantic themes?
Skill focus: creative writing – advanced structure, complex figurative language, sentence forms



Being Human: *Othello* and *Black Flamingo*

What is Shakespeare saying/showing about human nature and societal construction of identity? What is Atta saying/showing?
What was society like in Shakespearean England? How have things changed in Atta's text? How has context affected the writers?
How does society impact the characters and their motivations/decisions?
How/why has reception of the play changed over time?
How does Shakespeare use the tragic form? How does Atta use verse?
How does Shakespeare use the form of a play to depict different identities responding to society?
Skill focus: extract-based commentary, linking analysis to a thesis



Power and Resistance: *Djinn Patrol* and Short Stories

What systems of power are present in this text? How do the characters resist and thrive despite oppression?
How does the writer use the novel form, including character, setting and structure, to explore resistance to oppression? How do they use form?
What has the writer said about their own life and writing process? How has their experience affected their writing? What ethical considerations are at play?
Skill focus: essay writing, thesis-driven, using the novel as a whole, in-depth analysis



Thematic Vocabulary and Literary Terminology for Home Learning and In-Class Review

Identity and Transformation

Theme: identity, transformation, immature, wise, vulnerable, community, responsibility, loyalty, gender, challenge, joy, manipulation, betrayal, redemption, tradition, adventure, risk, the unknown, comfort, security, hierarchy, authority, rebellion, colonialism

Terminology: opening, climax, resolution, setting, character, characterisation, simile, metaphor, bildungsroman

Representing Reality

Theme: fate, superstition, choice, working class, upper class, deception, friendship, mental health, injustice, inequality, wealth, poverty, self-esteem, privilege, pain, trust, love, reckless, mischief, violence, society

Terminology: stage directions, narrator, audience, monologue, colloquial language, dramatic irony, tension, pace, contrast, stereotype

Origins and Lessons

Theme: monster, hero, ancient, legend, battle, adversary, overwhelming, renowned, victory, defeat, brutal, violent, society, great hall, terror, joy, invincible, barrow, feast, combat, pride, reputation

Terminology: translation, kenning, alliteration, simile, metaphor, epithet, epic poem, narrator, audience, feminism, colloquial language, oral storytelling, caesura, direct address

Experiences of War

Theme: hierarchy, camaraderie, boredom, paranoia, addiction, transformation, futile, frustration, love, trench, hero, power, kindness, trauma, innocence, propaganda, shelling, victim, enemy, armistice, courage, cowardice, friendship, loyalty, responsibility, mental health, coping mechanism, anticipation, uncertainty, community, class

Terminology: stage directions, sound and lighting, costume, props, characterisation, pace, simile, metaphor, theme

Designing Society

Theme: revolution, hierarchy, rebellion, conflict, corruption, inequality, suffering, education, patriotism, authority, self-preservation, law, tyrant, greed, hypocrisy

Terminology: introduction, conclusion, logic, emotive language, rhetorical question, direct address, repetition, anecdote, hyperbole, facts and statistics, opinion, counter-argument, famous quotation, dramatic irony, verbal irony,

Love and Relationships

Theme: infatuation, romantic love, platonic love, dynasty, grudge, violence, internal conflict, conflict, fate, patriarchy, masculinity, caution, femininity, public space, private space, loyalty, naïve, reckless, immature, joy, despair, transgression, inevitable, sacrifice, dilemma, bravado, honour

Terminology: soliloquy, imagery, juxtaposition, oxymoron, simile, metaphor, personification, motif, Shakespearean tragedy, tragedy, cautionary tale, foreshadowing, prologue, stanza, couplet

Gothic and Romanticism

Theme: Romanticism, eerie, phantom, Gothic, supernatural, misogyny, atmosphere, evil, naïve, innocent, mystery, victim, terror, monster, predator, horror, vampire, werewolf, sublime, macabre, morbid, dungeons, taboos, gore

Terminology: semantic field, pathetic fallacy, tone, sensory imagery, in medias res, twist, cliff-hanger, first person, second person, third person, foreshadowing, pace, detailed description, simile, metaphor, repetition, juxtaposition, alliteration, caesura, enjambment

Being Human

Theme: institutional racism, manipulation, deterioration, masculinity, femininity, cuckold, betrayal, reputation, power, suffering, hierarchy, jealousy, suspicion, justice, insecurity, good versus evil, transformation, revenge, order versus chaos, isolation, deception, social class, racism, public space, private space

Terminology: dramatic irony, soliloquy, setting, imagery, Shakespearean tragedy, hamartia, catastrophe, tragic hero, downfall, anagnorisis, motif, repetition, juxtaposition, alliteration, command, antithesis, simile, metaphor, repetition

Power and Resistance

Theme: structural inequality, poverty, innocence, identity, prejudice, injustice, friendship, loyalty, mystery, family, authority, ignorance, slum, adventure, violence, love, society, vulnerable, ambiguity, patriarchy, misogyny, transformation, resilience

Terminology: detective fiction, bildungsroman, mystery, narrative voice, characterisation, genre, social criticism, juxtaposition, journalist, theme, opening, climax, resolution, interlude, simile, metaphor, personification, tension